## Message Text

## UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 ACCRA 06045 270839Z ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 /019 W

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R 261513Z JUL 78

FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO USDOC WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4775

UNCLAS ACCRA 6045

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: BEXP GH

SUBJECT: WTDR/FTI: UNIVERSITY BOOKSHOP

REF: USDOC 12376

1. GHANA

OFFICE USE: 2. 749 3. 0001700 4. 01

5. UNIVERSITY BOOKSHOP

6. P.O. BOX 1; UNIVERSITY SQUARE

7. LEGON

8. CONTACT: SAMUEL O. COFIE

9. TITLE: MANAGER

OTHER OFFICIAL IS MR. I.O. OTOO, ASSISTANT MANAGER

10. PHONE: 75381 11. TELEX: N/A

12. CABLE: N/A

13. ESTABL: 1950 14. EMPL: 35 15. SIZE: LARGE

16. REPUTATION: Y-SATISFACTORY 14. RPT DATE: 07/78

OFFICE USE: 18. K 19. N/A 20. N/A 21. N/A 22. N/A

23A. 27310/1345 IMP DIST EXP OF BOOKS:

23B 26400/135 IMP DIST OF STATIONERY AND OFFICE

23C. 26216/135 SUPPLIES: WRITING AND RELATED PAPERS,

23D. 39500/135 PENS, PENCILS: OFFICE AND ART EQUIPMENT;

23E. 27710/135 ALSO OF GREETING CARDS AND OF

23F. 36520/135 PHONOGRAPH RECORDS

24. FOREIGN SALES: 98 PERCENT LACAL, 2 PERCENT EUROPE, U.S. AND

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## AFRICA.

25. FINANCIAL REF: GHANA COMMERCIAL BANK, P.O. BOX 17, LEGON

26. TRADE REFS: INTERNATIONAL BOOK SERVICE, 58 GRANT AVE: CARTERET,

N.J. 07008; XCAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS, BENTLEY HOUSE, 200 EUSTON

RD., LONDON, NW1 2DB.

27. FOREIGN FIRMS REPRESENTED: N/A

28. POST EVALUATION: BOOKSHOP IS SEMI-AUTONOMOUS BUSINESS ENTITY OF

UNIVERSITY OF GHANA; IT IS WELL ORGANIZED AND COPETENTLY MANAGED. LOCATED ON UNIVERSITY CAMPUS ABOUT 7 MILES FROM DOWNTOWN ACCRA, FIRM HAS LARGE GENERAL CLIENTELE IN ADDITION TO STUDENT CUSTOMERS. IT BUYS MAINLY FROM ENGLAND AND THE U.S. AND, ON SMALL SCALE, EXPORTS TO THOSE COUNTRIES AND OTHERS IN AFRICA. FIRM'S PROGRESS DURING PAST TWO YEARS SOMEWHAT HAMPERED BY GENERALLY POOR TRADING CONDITIONS. ANNUAL SALES REPORTEDLY DROPPED BY 37.5 PERCENT FROM CEDIS 800,000 IN 1975 TO CEDIS 500,000 IN 1977. (CURRENT EXCHANGE RATE OF CEDI IS APPROX. \$0.70). UNIVERSITY BOOKSHOP, HOWEVER, CONTINUES TO ENJOY EXCELLENT REPUTATION IN LOCAL BUSINESS COMMUNITY: BANKING SOURCES ACCORD IT A HIGH CREDIT RATING, AND WE RECOMMEND IT AS SUITABLE TRADE CONTACT FOR U.S. FIRMS. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT BECAUSE OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE DIFFICULTIES, IMPORTS ARE OFFICIALLY REGULATED; PERMITS AND LETTERS OF CREDIT ARE DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN, EVEN FOR GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED COMPANIES. FIRMS MUST REMIT UNDER LETTERS OF CREDIT, SINCE OTHERWISE THEY CANNOT USUALLY TRANSFER FUNDS ABROAD. 29. PREP: PETER A. HENNISON APPR: ALBERT L. GLAD. HOLMES

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

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Disposition Remarks:
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Subject: WTDR/FTI: UNIVERSITY BOOKSHOP

TAGS: BEXP, GH To: COM Type: TE

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Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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